

## STATE OF ALABAMA

## DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION

RSA UNION BUILDING 100 N. UNION STREET POST OFFICE BOX 301410 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-1410



JOHN M. HOUSTON COMMISSIONER

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **4**<sup>th</sup> Annual Capitol Showcase Consumer Art Exhibit

More than 100 consumer artists will showcase their talents and share their personal stories

MONTGOMERY – "I believe that becoming an artist has made me have higher self-esteem." Those are the words of Kenny, one of the more than 100 consumer artists whose work will be on display as part of the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Capitol Showcase Consumer Art Exhibit. The exhibit can be viewed in the Old Supreme Court Library in the Capitol from November 3 to November 28, 2008. A reception will be held for artists, their friends and family members on Wednesday, November 5, at 1 p.m. also in the Old Supreme Court Library in the Capitol.

For consumer artists with mental illness, intellectual disabilities or substance addiction illness, this exhibit is about more than just their art. They also have the opportunity to share their heartfelt testimonies about the obstacles they have overcome in their lives. The Capitol Showcase Consumer Art Exhibit is an excellent opportunity to promote consumer dignity and gain more understanding of individuals the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation serves.

The exhibit is sponsored by the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. The opportunity to view these unique works will end November 28, 2008. For more information about the exhibit, please contact the Office of Public Information at (334) 242-3417.

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